Happy 6th Anniversary

Because of

Dangerous Pleasure

I've learned more about using Photoshop and a tablet than I ever did in 4 years of expensive art school.

Army Kitten

I got to work on my favorite series

Cadenza

Dp
Happy Birthday
Jozetto!

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Brother x Brother

Kisaragi Hirotaka

Publisher
Kadokawa Shoten

Published by
Asuka Comics CL-DX

ISBN
4-0485-4335-4

Genre
Yaoi

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Dangerous pleasure
scanlation group

ASUKA COMICS CL DX

兄弟限定！4

如月弘鷹

BROTHER × BROTHER

KISARAGI HIROTAKA

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9784048543354

ISBN978-4-04-854335-4
C0979 ¥560E
発行 角川書店／定価 本体560円(税別)

1920979005600

More than three weeks have passed and the three Shirahama brothers – Masato, Hanome and Souichirou, have started living together. Hanome is facing his traumatic past and has finally became mutual lovers with Souichirou! While in the midst of things, the film production "Hikari to Hage no Jounetsu" is to receive a fund from Houdoin because of financial difficulties. "Masato's talent" and "Hanome s...t" are the compensations! How will these brothers protect Hanome and their brotherly bond?! This big-hit trouble and love comedy, the final stage of the movie arch has finally arrived, volume 4!

BROTHER
BROTHER

4

Kisaragi Hirotaka

Brother x Brother. Finally, last it's fourth volume! I've finally come to a conclusion where the story comes to an end.

I hope you can journey with the Shirakawa brothers as they continue to grow their bonds and mould their brotherhood.

The filming stage has finally gotten a climax! A new year also brings much mischief and cries. I hope you'll enjoy Brother x Brother!

BROTHER
BROTHER

BROTHER BROTHER

KISARAGI HIROTAKA

ASUKA COMICS CL-DX

兄弟限定！

如月弘鷹

4

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兄弟限定！4

BROTHER BROTHER

如月弘鷹

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STORY

scene.12

NEW WHIRLWIND

Director Ougi makes a request that Masato be the one to do the artwork for the film "Hikari to Kage no Jounetsu." What's more, it is planned for Kaname to make an appearance in the movie. The famous actor Tachibana Miroku also takes a special interest in Souichirou ...

scene.13

GRADUATION FROM REFUGE

Kaname, who is determined to live his own life, returns home only to witness Miroku forcefully kiss Souichirou. Kaname then starts evading Souichirou who gets depressed because of it. Because of this situation, Masato anxiously advises Miroku to

scene.14

PEOPLE WHO WANT TO TURN AROUND

Kaname mistakes Souichirou and Miroku for lovers and closes his heart. Kaname says he doesn't want to bring any inconvenience to his brother's due to his illness, but Souichirou eagerly vents his feelings.

scene.15

FOUND ANSWER

Souichirou realizes that he is in love with Kaname. Under the advice of Masato, he goes off to apologize to Kaname about the kiss. Miroku visits Kaname at his house and they both go for a walk, but Kaname declares that he won't entrust Souichirou to Miroku!

scene.16

BREAK FROM THE PAST

While rushing home, Souichirou hits Miroku. At home, Kaname overcomes his own trauma. Souichirou gently embraces Kaname and says he will always be with him. At last, the hearts of the two are finally connected!

BROTHER BROTHER 4

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BROTHER×BROTHER
area.17

Souichirou .
Wake up.
Souichirou
...
-KANAME-SAN?
YOU'LL CATCH A COLD IF YOU SLEEP HERE
COME ON.
YOU HAVE TO GIVE ME KISS
SO WAKE UP

I finally...
KANA-ME-SAN
I...
Ah, that's right
I THINK I MIGHT BE IN HEAVEN...
WHh Kaname-san.
lick
lick lick lick
WHOA?!
stomp
EEEZ!
GETTING YOUR FACE ALL FOULED UP SO EARLY IN THE MORNING!

No I'm sorry about that Masato-san, but my foot!
I'm in a really bad mood right now so let me step on you some more!
You've got some nerve, making me listen to you roast in your sleep
Stomp! Stomp!
Flail
Stomp!
Ouch!
Didn't you ask me to wake you up because you promised to meet Katsuragi-san today?
How much sleep do you actually need?
Since you've gotten together with Kaname you've become a little conceited
Hmf!
As punishment, I ate all of the food Kaname prepared
What's with that?!
I'm gonna head to the studio first okay?
If you get it, then hurry up and come down.

To my mom in Hokkaido,
GO SAFELY
: yawn
YEAH
three weeks have already passed since I started living in this house together with my brothers.
Numerous things have happened since then, but...
...if I had to say the one thing that has changed the most..

SPLASH
AHH...
KANAME-SAN AND I
HAVE SERIOUSLY BECOME LOVERS
I...
...feel more loved surprisingly
At first, I wondered what was going happen with Kaname-san and Masato-san,
but now, we're more like a real family.
It's rather strange, but I somehow have a good feeling about it
Masato's sarcastic reaction isn't so bad.
step
step

step
step
SOUI-CHIROU?
MORE LOVED...
RIGHT?
Uwaah!
FOR SOUI-CHIROU
EMPTY
YOU'RE AWAKE?
GOOD MORNING
KANAME-SAN
WE RAN OUT OF MILK SO I WENT AND BOUGHT SOME, BUT..
AH. AS I EXPECTED, IT WASN'T ENOUGH, HUH?
WAIT RIGHT THERE I'LL
grab

I'M HOME, SOUICHI-KUN.
WELCOME BACK KANAME-SAN
Ah...
Kaname-san, you've become so beautiful.

My life.
It'd be nice if it continued like this forever.
HEY THERE SOUICHI-ROU-KUN
IT'S BEEN A WHILE
IT CERTAINLY HAS BEEN, KATSURAGI-SAN
SO, WHAT KIND OF BUSINESS...?
RIGHT.
IT'S ACTUALLY ABOUT THE INHERITANCE OF THE HOUSE.

I THOUGHT I'D BETTER FIND OUT YOUR DECISION ON THE MATTER
SINCE THE DEADLINE IS IN ABOUT A WEEK'S TIME,
Ah.
"IN REGARD TO THE INHERITANCE OF THE HOUSE THOSE CONCERNED HAVE A ONE MONTH GRACE PERIOD BEFORE A FINAL TRANSFER IS MADE."
THAT WAS STATED IN YOUR FATHER'S WILL. HOWEVER
IF A DECISION HASN'T BEEN REACHED AFTER A MONTH,
THE HOUSE WILL BE SET DOWN FOR IMMEDIATE DEMOLITION. AS THERE IS NO SPECIFIC CANDIDATE FOR THE INHERITANCE, THE ASSETS WILL THEN BE DIVIDED EQUALLY
!

Are we gonna lose the house?
If we do lose it,
what's gonna happen to us?
We're brothers who aren't related by blood
Because of that, there aren't any other joint alternatives for settling this
Either way,
In order to keep the house, someone has to stay while the rest will have to leave.
whichever option we take, I guess we won't be able to stay together
SOUICHI-ROU-KUN, YOU UNDER-STAND, DON'T YOU?

HUH?
I MEAN
YOU WERE WILLING TO KICK YOUR BROTHERS OUT BEFORE
BUT NOW
YOU'RE MAKING A FACE THAT SAYS YOU WANT TO CONTINUE THIS FOR JUST A LITTLE LONGER
I'VE ALREADY INFORMED MASATO-KUN AND KANAME-KUN.
rattle
I HOPE THE THREE OF YOU CAN MAKE YOUR DECISION SOON.
I'LL SEE YOU LATER
Hey dad,
why ..

Why did you want this...
...for all of us?
earnestly
IT'S GRADUALLY STARTING TO FEEL LIKE WE'RE IN THE FINAL STAGE OF FILMING
IT ALL WENT BY REALLY QUICKLY.
Thank you so much!
SOB
CLAP
SO LET'S GIVE A BIG ROUND OF APPLAUSE TO THE KIDS IN THE GIRLS TEAM!
CLAP
Good work!

I WONDER WHY YOU'RE LOVED BY EVERYONE."
EVEN THOUGH YOU DON'T SEEM TO HAVE ANY PARTICULAR WORTH
We didn't get a chance to speak after that
Loved by everyone? More like bullied by everyone...
I wonder which part of me Tachibana was interested in.
Maybe..
step
..Tachibana is
HERE, HAVE THIS

TACHIBANA?
LET ME JUST SAY THIS
IT'S NOT LIKE I'VE GOT A PARTICULAR REASON TO BE JEALOUS OF YOU GUYS...
BUT...
...THAT DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN I'M GIVING UP ON YOU EITHER
THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO SAY
turn
step
step
step
EEEZ

THAT GUY IS SERIOUSLY AWKWARD AND CLUMSY WHEN IT COMES TO RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS
MASATO-SAN..
Here
THAT WAS SUPPOSEDLY HOW HE TAKES IT UPON HIMSELF TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU.
I see.
Tachi-bana
Yeah!
AH
THAT REMINDS ME
THEY'RE SHOOTING YOUR ADDITIONAL SCENES NOW, RIGHT?
CHOKE
ww

drip
This is bad.
drip
More importantly..
How could I not know it? He's my brother and lover
EVEN THOUGH IT'S MY FIRST TIME SEEING HIS NAME YOU RECOGNIZE IT DON'T YOU?
Oyama?
I WAS A LITTLE SURPRISED WHEN I SAW A MAN'S NAME LISTED FOR THE ROLE OF THE PROSTITUTE YOU KNOW
note. oyama = drag queen female impersonator
Extremely bad...
Because...
Shock
AH,
THERE YOU ARE SONOO-KA-KUN!
Direc-tor Og!
bring Kaname-kun
Sooo, since we're gonna start shooting scene 235 next,
I still haven't gotten around to asking Kaname about this yet!
drip drip drip
I mean, I still

WHISPER
M-MASATO-SAN!
I LEFT THAT MATTER TO YOU, DIDN'T I?
BLUNTLY
ANYWAY, JUST GET IT DONE
HOW?!
WELL, I'M NOT BRAGGING OR ANYTHING BUT THIS SCENE IS FREAKING AWESOME!

THE SOURCE OF "HIKARI TO KAGE NO JOUNETSU" NIOKA SAKURAKO'S SCENE WHERE SHE GIVES A BEAUTIFUL REPRESENTATION OF PURE NAIVETY YET A WILD SENSE OF INSANITY
DURING THE MOONLIT AIR RAID, ENGULFED BY FLAMES, THE IMPRISONED PROSTITUTE DANCES ALONE WHILE SHE THINKS LONGINGLY OF HER COMMANDER

UMM... I HAVE SOMETHING I WANNA SAY...
BUT THIS TIME FOR THE REMAKE, I COULDN'T INSERT THE SCENE BECAUSE OF THE CHANGE IN THE FLOW OF THE STORY
HOWEVER IF WE WERE TO PUT THIS SCENE IN THAT ROLE SHOULD DEFINITELY BE PLAYED BY KANAME!
I WILL MAKE IT INTO A TOTAL WORK OF ART IF HE PLAYS THE ROLE!
YEAH, ABOUT THAT, KANAME-SAN... WELL... HE...

JUST NOW
YOU WEREN'T GOING TO SAY SOMETHING LIKE "HE S NOT DOING IT " RIGHT?
HEY, OGI!
flap
THIS ADDITIONAL SCENE
ARE YOU SERIOUSLY GOING TO MAKE IT THIS EXTRAVA-GANT?
!
SHUDDER

WE'LL FIGURE SOMETHING OUT! BESIDES, ISN'T THAT YOUR JOB PRODUCER-SAN?
I CERTAINLY WON'T DEAL WITH IT
QUIT OGI!
TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, YOU'RE GOING OVERROAD WITH THE BUDGET. WE NEED TO THINK ABOUT SOME ALTERATIONS IN THE SCHEDULE IF WE WANT TO MAINTAIN-
WELL, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS WITH THAT.
YEAH, I AM.
THIS IS MY MOVIE.
I'LL FILM IT THE WAY I WANT IT FILMED
...
OGI...
chatter
...

YOU...
WHY ARE YOU SHOOTING THIS FILM?
IT WAS THE SAME WHEN WE WERE PART-NERED FOR THE GRADUA-TION PRODUC-TION
YOU COMPLETELY ISOLATE EVERYTHING THAT SURROUNDS YOU FOR THE SAKE OF PURSUING YOUR OWN DESIGN
SO THEN,
WHAT ABOUT YOURSELF?
Oei...

FINE I GET IT
WHAT ARE YOU BEING SO IMPATIENT ABOUT?
I'LL TRY TO WORK SOMETHING OUT ABOUT THE BUDGET
chatter
chatter
WE'LL NEVER FINISH SHOOTING BY ARGUING HERE
WELL, THERE'S MORE WORK TO DO SO IT'S GONNA GET BUSIER

At any rate,
I need to speak with Kaname-san.
For him to be in this film, he might possibly..
He was already in such a condition even though he was only watching the old video release of "Hikari no Kage Jounetsu."
If Kaname-san doesn't want to do it
I'll beg on my knees until Director Ogi changes the cast
I..
It's because I promised I wouldn't hurt Kaname-san anymore!

AH,
IT'S OKAY
I'LL MAKE THE APPEAR-ANCE
IT'S ONLY A SHADOW PERFOR-MANCE, RIGHT?
I'M AN AMATEUR, SO I CAN'T ACT PROPERLY, BUT IF IT'S JUST THAT, I CAN PROBABLY DO IT..
IS IT ALL RIGHT IF I GO TOMOR-ROW?
WHAT?
SO IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU, KANAME-SAN?
AFTER ALL, THIS SCENE... IT'S YOUR..

YES, I KNOW
I HAVE TO RECREATE MY MOTHER'S SCENE
WHEN I WAS WATCHING THE MOVIE, IT WAS REALLY PAINFUL FOR ME EVEN WHEN I RECALL IT NOW. IT STILL HURTS ME,
BUT
..I THOUGHT THAT MY MOTHER WHO WAS DANCING THERE..
WAS EXTREMELY BEAUTIFUL.
THE MEMORIES OF MY MOTHER CAN TRIGGER MY PTSD
SO IN ORDER TO DEFEAT IT, I WANT TO UNDERSTAND HER MORE

I WONDER IF I'LL BE ABLE TO COME TO TERMS WITH THAT PERSON?
MY MOTHER SHONE THE MOST WHILE DANCING IN THAT MOVIE
tremble
touch
bump
IT'S OKAY

YEAH
I'LL PROTECT YOU
I'LL ALWAYS BE BY YOUR SIDE
SO DON'T WORRY

click
screech
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR COMING DOWN
KOUDUKI-SAN
WELL I PAY FOR THE BEST THINGS
IT'S MY PRINCIPLE
HOWEVER,
THIS MOVIE I WONDER IF IT'S REALLY WORTH IT?
area.17×end

BROTHER×BROTHER

area.18

UH,
SINCE IT'S KANAME-SAN'S FIRST TIME AT THE STUDIO,
I'M KINDA GETTING NERVOUS..
sigh
step
step
DAIEI TOKYO STUDIO
BUT IT'S GONNA BE ALL RIGHT, KANAME-SAN!
IF THERE'S SOMETHING YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, JUST ASK ME!
clench
YEAH
I WILL, SOUICHIROU

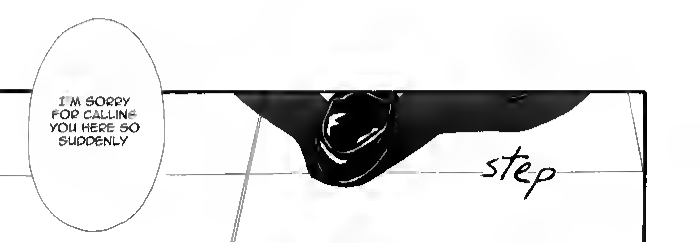
SO, LET'S INTRODUCE YOU TO EVERYONE IN THE DRESSING ROOM FIRST
grab
What's with this crowd?!
WHOA
Wha-?
stare
open
Good morning!
excited
excited
IT'S ALL GOOD SO HURRY UP AND INTRODUCE HIM!
WELL I GOT INTERESTED AFTER FOLLOWING EVERYONE HERE!
THIS IS MY BROTHER SHIRAKAWA KANAME HE'LL BE PLAYING THE ROLE OF KONOHA
gesture
AH. WELL THEN...

I'M SHIRAKAWA KANAME.
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU.
WHOA!
Wha-
What's this?! He's an absolute beauty!
Wow, Sou-chan Is he really your brother?!
WHAT? NO. HE'S MY STEPBROTHER.

I'M SO LUCKY TO ACTUALLY BE DOING YOUR MAKE-UP
WELL, WITH LOOKS LIKE THAT, I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY DIRECTOR OSI WENT TO THE TROUBLE OF GETTING HIM FOR THE ROLL
thwack
hee..
hee..
HEY, HOW TALL ARE YOU?
Kamame san...
somehow the atmosphere always changes...
chatter
chatter
IT'S PREFERABLE TO BE TALLER THOUGH THE SILHOUETTE WILL BE EVEN PRETTIER! SEE?
IF IT'S ABOUT THE SAME, THEN IT SHOULD JUST BE LONG ENOUGH FOR THE KIMONO
I WONDER IF YOUR FIT IS ROUGHLY THE SAME AS SOU-CHAN'S?
GULP
WAS PRETTY TALL AS WELL
NIOKA SAKURAKO, WHO PLAYED THE SAME ROLE IN THE ORIGINAL MOVIE,

AH COME TO THINK OF IT, THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT YOU THAT REMINDS ME A LOT OF NIOKA SAKURAKO.
YEAH YOU'RE RIGHT.
HASN'T ANYONE EVER TOLD YOU THAT YOU TWO LOOK ALIKE?
That
Crap!
Touch
NO.
BUT...
IF I REALLY DO, THEN IT'S AN HONOR.
MORE IMPORTANTLY...
I HAVE TO APOLOGIZE FOR BEING AN AMATEUR WHO CAN'T TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LEFT AND RIGHT HOWEVER,
I'LL TRY MY BEST, SO I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO RECEIVING YOUR GUIDANCE.

SAME HERE I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU!
FEEL FREE TO ASK ME IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND
NO WAY! FOR A GUY TO THEN I HAVE APOLOGIZE AS WELL FOR MAKING YOU EXCUSE YOURSELF LIKE THAT!
Kaname-san..
JUMP
I- I'll go with you as well!
COULD YOU COME OVER HERE?
KYA!
KYA!
WELL THEN, SHALL WE LET YOU TRY ON THE COSTUME?
SO THAT'S HOW EVERYBODY TREATS ME...
boo!
boo!
Whaaat? Sou-chan too?


I'M SORRY FOR CALLING YOU HERE SO SUDDENLY
step

THERE'S ACTUALLY AN ADDITIONAL SCENE WE'D LIKE TO START ON
I HAVE TO CONFESS THAT I SERIOUSLY DIDN'T THINK YOU'D FORMALLY INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO US, KOUDUKI-SAN
I'VE HEARD A GREAT DEAL ABOUT YOU,
OR RATHER,
I WAS MORE THAN CURIOUS TO SEE IF YOU WERE REALLY INTENDING TO PAY FOR SUCH A LAST-MINUTE ADDITION TO THE MOVIE
THAT IS...
...NOT WORTH MENTIONING.
WELL THEN, LET'S CUT TO THE CHASE COULD YOU TELL ME ABOUT THE MOVIE?
THE DECISION ON WHETHER I'LL PAY OR NOT DEPENDS ON THE PRESENTATION

IT'S KINDA UNPLEASANT SEEING THE PRODUCER FOLLOW MR. DISTINGUISHED OVER THERE
WHO IS HE?
I'VE SEEN HIM IN A WEEKLY MAGAZINE BEFORE
IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY HE'S A FAMOUS YOUNG BUSINESSMAN WHO ALSO INVESTS IN FILMS
OOH.
SO THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS BY "INVESTING."
YEAH, BUT...
...RUMOR HAS IT THAT HE CAN GET ANYONE TO PUT OUT JUST BY INVESTING IN THEM SINCE HE'S THEIR BENEFACTOR

chatter
chatter

THAT GUY...

SO AS I WAS SAYING,
IN THE MIDST OF THE WAR TOUGOU WHO RETIRED AFTER THE SHOCK OF HIS FIRST SON DYING ON THE BATTLEFIELD, FALLS DEEPLY IN LOVE WITH THE PROSTITUTE KOMINE BECAUSE OF HER. HE IS ABLE TO ACQUIRE PEACE AND TRANQUILLITY
HOWEVER HIS CONTENTMENT WAS SHORT-LIVED
HIDAI WHO UNTIL THEN HAD BEEN CONCERNED WITH TOUGOU'S WELL-BEING AS WELL AS TOUGOU'S SECOND SECOND SON, YU BOTH GET KILLED IN THE WAR
ALL OF TOUGOU'S IDEALS DIED MERCILESSLY
IN THE END AN OPPRESSED TOUGOU WAS THE ONLY ONE LEFT REMAINING
IT WAS THEN THAT HE THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT HUMAN HAPPINESS WAS
drop
THAT'S ENOUGH TALK ON THE CONTEXT

I'VE ALSO WATCHED THE FIRST "HIKARI TO KAGE NO JOUN-SETSU."
MUR MUR
IT'LL BE THE SAME THIS TIME ROUND THE SAME HORRIFIC SCENARIO...
BUT EVEN SO, THE PREVIOUS FILM WAS STILL ABLE TO SELL
THIS WAS ALL THANKS TO THE ORIGINALITY OF THE ART AND THE RISING POPULARITY OF THE ACTRESS THAT TOOK OFF WITH THE MEDIA.
I'LL SAY IT HONESTLY
WITHOUT THAT COMBIN-TION, REGARDLESS OF WHO IS MAKING THIS FILM, IT WILL TURN OUT TO BE NOTHING BUT TRASH.

mutter
mutter
I'M NOT THE KIND OF ROMANTICIST WHO'S ABOUT TO THROW HIS MONEY ON THE SIDE ROAD
EVEN IF I'M INVESTING, I'M NOT EXPECTING MUCH FROM THE BOX OFFICE RETURN

IF THAT'S THE CASE,
KEEP THROWING YOUR MONEY AWAY AND YOU'LL SEE
IT'S DIFFERENT...
..FOR ME AND THE OTHER GUYS.

rattle
Ogi?!
I KNOW THIS COMPOSITION BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE HERE
I'M GONNA SHOW YOU THAT WHAT I'M FILMING GOES BEYOND THAT
I'LL MAKE SURE OF IT
BUT FOR THAT TO HAPPEN, I NEED MONEY
IF I'M GONNA FILM THIS PRODUCTION UNDER MY DIRECTION, I DON'T CARE IF IT'S AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHER THINGS
THAT'S THE ONLY REASON I'VE MADE IT THIS FAR!

rattle
I'M FINE WITH ANYTHING
WHAT WILL?
WELL IT'S NOT LIKE I HATE SEEING YOUR FACES SO FIXATED ON THIS PIECE
ALL RIGHT THEN. I'LL BUY YOUR ENTHUSIASM. SO TRY SELLING YOUR "EXPENSES" TO ME
I SEE
IF I SEE SOMETHING I LIKE, YOU SELL IT TO ME, NO QUESTIONS ASKED
PEOPLE, MATERIALS, TALENTS, ALL OBJECTS.

area.18
clank
clank
clank
bang
bang
THUD
THUD
?
NOW,
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO SELL TO ME?

THIS WOULD VE COST A LOT
AHA
THE SCALE OF THIS OPEN SET IS QUITE SOMETHING, ISN'T IT?
I SEE
THIS ART IS BREATH-TAKING

THE ART DIRECTOR IS A GUY NAMED SHIRAKAWA MASATO.
THIS FIGURATIVE ART IS PRAISE-WORTHY IT'S LIKE AN EXACT REPLICA OF THE FORMER
WHO RECREATED THIS?
DID YOU SAY.. SHIRA-KAWA?
YES
HE'S THE SON OF THE ART DIRECTOR WHO HANDLED THE PREVIOUS FILM SHIRAGAWA KAORU
PRODUCER GOTOU
AH
EXCUSE US FOR INTRUDING MASATO-KUN
I'M KOUJUKI
I DON'T MIND,
BUT WHO'S THIS?
SO, I'M PLANNING TO INVEST IN THIS MOVIE

EVEN THOUGH THIS "ACCOMPLISHMENT" IS AS YOU WANTED IT TO BE
I WONDER HOW MUCH MONEY IS NEEDED FOR IT?
AH,
I'D PROBABLY WANT DOUBLE THE CURRENT AMOUNT GIVEN
WELL THEN ALLOW ME TO BUY IT
YOUR TALENT, THAT IS
MY TALENT?

I SEE
SO IT'S LIKE THAT?
I'M SORRY, BUT THE SELLING OF MY ARTISTIC SKILLS CONCERNS OGI
IF YOU WANT TO BUY THEM, I SUGGEST YOU BUY THEM FROM HIM
OH?
IT'S UNFORTUNATE, BUT I DID ANTICIPATE THIS.
WHAT YOU REALLY WANT IS MY ABILITY TO REPLICATE THE WORK OF SHIRAKAWA KAORU, RIGHT?

THE "SHIRAKAWA KAORU" IN ME IS THE ONLY THING YOU CAN'T BUY
AT ANY RATE, FOR OGI AND ME
HMPH
WELL THAT'S A SHAME...
I ACTUALLY WANTED TO SEE MORE OF YOUR OWN ART.
FOR THAT REASON IT WOULDN'T BE A BAD DEAL IF I WERE TO INVEST IN YOU
step
OGI?

I GOTTA GET BACK TO WORK
I LL LEAVE THE REST TO YOU
HEY! IS THAT OKAY?
OGI'
THERE S STILL MORE ISN T THERE?
step
YES...
step
..THE ART ALONE WON T COMPENSATE ME FOR THE WHOLE AMOUNT YOU NEED ANYWAY
BUT...
step
step

FINE!
I WON'T BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU THE AMOUNT YOU NEED THEN
KOUDUKI-SAN!
YES, I UNDER-STAND.
BUT THE CAST HAS PRACTICALLY FINISHED FILMING..
IF YOU'VE HEARD THE "RUMORS," YOU UNDER-STAND RIGHT?
ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME YOU ALLOWED ME TO BUY THE "REAL STUFF"?
step
JUST AS I THOUGHT... YOU'RE GLOWING!
IT'S ONLY THE COSTUME CHECK BUT STANDING UNDER THE LIGHT LIKE THIS MAKES YOU LOOK ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL!
IT'S AS IF BEING AN ACTRESS,.. NO, AN ACTOR IS A NATURAL TALENT OF HIS.

WHOA!
WHEN YOU SEE IT LIKE THIS IT'S LIKE LOOKING AT THE REAL IMAGE OF NIOKA SAKU-RAKO
YOU'RE RIGHT... IT'S SO REAL THAT IT'S KINDA SCARY.

WELL EVEN THOUGH HE'S PERFORMING HE'S REALLY JUST AN EXTRA
HUH?
OH, HIM?
THAT'S
HE'LL BE TAKING THE ROLE OF KOMINE IN THE "LAST DANCE" SCENE, WHICH WAS ORIGINALLY PLAYED BY NIOKA SAKURAKO
HOW BEAUTIFUL
INDEED, A DECADENT YET GENUINE BEAUTY
BUT...
...THERE'S DARKNESS IN HIS EYES.

SUCH A PITY
WITH THAT HE'S JUST ANOTHER PRETTY DOLL
ALL RIGHT THE TESTING IS DONE!
GOOD WORK GUYS!
WE'LL WRAP UP FOR TODAY OKAY?
RUN
KANAME-SAN!
SOUICHI-KUN

tap
GOOD WORK, KANAME-SAN!
IS IT OVER?
YES IT'S OVER!
IT WAS ALL SO PRETTY!
BUT...
ALTHOUGH IT WAS PRETTY,
YOU ARE STILL YOU KANAME-SAN

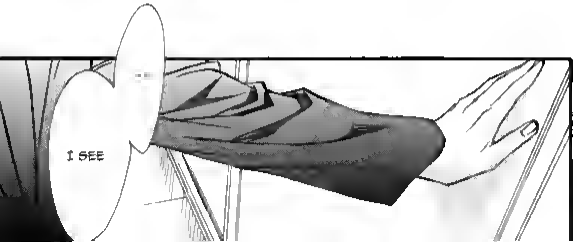
shiver
shiver
grab
BUT I HAVE TO SAY THAT KIMONO LOOKS REALLY GOOD ON YOU, KANAME-SAN
I'VE COMPLETELY FALLEN FOR YOU AGAIN
YOU MUST BE TIRED. REST FOR A LITTLE SIT OVER HERE.
sigh
YEAH. JUST A LITTLE THOUGH
IS IT STILL... FRIGHTENING?

THE KIND OF FEELINGS MY MOTHER WAS EXPERIENCING WHILE SHE WAS STANDING OVER THERE
I WAS THINKING ABOUT IT THE WHOLE TIME
BUT THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT THE MORE THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN MY MOTHER AND I BECOMES A LITTLE MORE AMBIGUOUS
I GUESS IT'S FRIGHTENING
I'M HERE FOR YOU.
squeeze
ALWAYS

AH
SOUCHIROU..
SO
.. RELY ON ME WHENEVER YOU NEED TO

look around
caress
Your height
THERE S SOMETHING UNUSUAL.
11cm
OH
HMM?
these
TALL CLOGS
I'M WEARING THEM
Ah!

THERE S
LIPSTICK ON YOU
ANO, SOUICHI-ROU
HMM?
..
AH


I SEE

CALL HIM OVER FOR ME
Kouduki-san!
I REALLY WANT IT
CAN YOU SELL IT TO ME?
EVERYTHING THAT'S INVOLVED WITH THIS FILM
THIS COULD BE AMUSING IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE
step
STILL THE SAME AS EVER
YOU HAVE BAD TASTE DON'T YOU
KOUDUKI-SAN

BROTHER BROTHER

KISARAGI HIROTAKA

BROTHER BROTHER

KISARAGI HIROTAKA

IT'S BEEN A WHILE, KOUDUKI-SAN.
THE LAST TIME WE MET WAS AT THE MINISTER'S SOCIAL DINNER, WASN'T IT?
WELL, IF IT ISN'T TACHI-BANA-KUN.
YOU'RE STILL AS LOVELY AS EVER
OH WE NEVER DID HAVE OUR LITTLE CHAT BACK THEN ABOUT YOUR PROBLEMS WITH ME BEING YOUR BENEFACTOR. DID WE?
WELL I THOUGHT YOUR EVERY DAY BEHAVIOR WAS JUST PURE EVIL.
BUT MY MAIN PROBLEM WAS WITH YOU GREEDILY SNATCHING AWAY ALL THE TALENT FROM YOUR ASSOCIATES.

BUT...
...I KINDA UNDERSTAND THAT FEELING NOW.
STILL THE SAME EGOIST, AREN'T YOU?
WELL, I MUST ADMIT I DO HAVE A TENDENCY TO FIXATE ON THE THINGS I WANT.
IS THAT RIGHT?
PRO-DUCER GOTOU.

touch
GOTOU -SAN
I'LL PAY THE WHOLE AMOUNT YOU'RE ASKING FOR
WHAT?!
..THIS IS CONSIDER-ABLY MORE INTERESTING
BUT..
IN THE MIDDLE OF NEGO-TIATIONS, YES,
I NEED TO BORROW KOU-DUKI-SAN ..
..FOR A LITTLE WHILE
WELL
WE'RE NOW-
BUT MIZOKU -KUN

I WON'T BE IN A POSITION TO CALL IN THE FUNDS FOR A SHORT WHILE,
SO GO AHEAD AND TELL THE DIRECTOR HE CAN ONLY DO THE THINGS HE REALLY WANTS TO FOR NOW
OH, AND...
...SET UP AN ARRANGEMENT WITH "HIM."
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO IT IMMEDIATELY, THOUGH
I'LL WAIT UNTIL FILMING FINISHES.
I RARELY SHOW SUCH TOLERANCE,
BUT THIS TIME, I'LL SPARE TACHIBANA-KUN'S FACE FOR YOU.

SERI-OUSLY...
YOU'RE NOT ACTUALLY THINKING OF BUYING ME AT A CHEAPER PRICE THAN THAT AMATEUR, ARE YOU?
I SEE
YOU WANT ME TO BUY YOU, RIGHT?
I UNDER-STAND
MIROKU-KU...
clench
I WONDER.

IT'S LIKE I SAID, I'VE BECOME FIXATED
BUT THIS IS MOST UNUSUAL
YOU SELLING YOURSELF LIKE THIS
YOU'RE NOT GONNA GIVE UP ARE YOU?
IF YOU'RE ABLE TO SATISFY ME,
THEN I'LL PUT OFF BUYING HIM FOR THE TIME BEING

MORE-OVER?
MORE-OVER.
IF THIS MOVIE DOESN'T GET COMPLETED, IT'LL BE A PROBLEM FOR ME AS WELL
WHAT-EVER
GUESS I'M DOING IT ON A BIT OF A WHIM!

THERE IS..
SOMEONE I WANT TO SHOW OFF TO
HMM..
FLOMP
PHEW

"MY ART"?
"I wanted to see more of your art."
I HAVEN'T UTTERED THOSE WORDS IN A LONG TIME
"What you really want is my ability to replicate the work of Shirakawa Kaoru, right?"
"At any rate, for Ogi and me, the "Shirakawa Kaoru" in me is the only thing you can't buy."
It's different.
Me being concerned with "him"...
that's all it is.

rattle
HONEST-LY
WE'RE ATTRACTED TO THE MOST BOTHERSOME THINGS..
I'm desperately trying to hold onto the things I swore never to touch again.
Just like how Ogi can't escape from the spell of "Hikari to Kage no Jounetsu,"
"Masato."
"he" left a lot of things behind for me to take care of
Still,

The house and siblings,
the talent for art and...
...friends
REALLY..
MY LIFE'S PRETTY MUCH SET OUT FOR ME
But
..It's not that bad
Let's treat
WELL
GUESS I'D BETTER GET SOME-THING TO EAT
SIGH

WHAT?
FLINCH
OH,
YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD AT CONTROLLING THAT SWEET VOICE OF YOURS

I... BECAUSE...
I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D BE SO HASTY!
OH,
I ALREADY TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I?
I HAVE NO TOLERANCE WHEN I WANT SOMETHING
GRAB
AH!
BUT YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD AFTER ALL
I'VE HAD MY EYE ON YOU
IF YOU KEEP SATISFYING ME LIKE THIS I'LL HAVE EXPECTATIONS FOR HIM AS WELL.
SHIRAKAWA KANAME-KUN... WASN'T IT?
SPEAKING OF WHICH, THAT ART DIRECTOR SHIRAWAKA MASATO-KUN HAS THE SAME NAME, DOESN'T HE?
GRAB
KOU-DUKI-SAN!
THIS ISN'T A GAME,
IT'S A CONTRACT

CRASH
I'M GETTING EVEN MORE TURNED ON
BUT..
..FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU TO WILLINGLY SACRIFICE YOUR PRIDE FOR SOMEONE ELSE
ALL RIGHT, I GET IT
UNTIL I GET TIRED OF YOU, I WON'T LAY A FINGER ON HIM
THRUST
OUCH!
WHAT IN THE WORLD COULD IT BE?
THE SOURCE OF YOUR DETER-MINATION
GRR

GET THE FUCK OFF MIROKU!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
THAT'S REALLY INSENSITIVE, ESPECIALLY WHEN PEOPLE ARE ACTUALLY ENJOYING THEMSELVES.
WELL, I'LL BE.
MASATO!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO?!
NOT TO MENTION YOU UTTERED MY YOUNGER BROTHER'S NAME.
CLENCH
YOU'RE THE ONLY WHO'S ENJOYING IT, YOU BASTARD!

Ugh
THAT MAKES YOU THE ELDER BROTHER OF SHIRAKAWA KANAME?
YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER?
I SEE
THEN.
...I GUESS MASATO-KUN IS THE "ONE TO SHOW OFF TO." RIGHT, TACHIBANA-KUN?
ANYHOW, I WAS GONNA BUY KANAME-KUN, BUT TACHIBANA-KUN OFFERED...
...HIMSELF AS A SUBSTITUTE, ALL FOR YOUR SAKE
OR DID I GET IT WRONG?
?!
....
YOU'RE A LITTLE OFF.

IT WASN'T REALLY FOR MASATO'S SAKE,
NOR WAS I FEELING PARTICULARLY SYMPATHETIC TOWARDS SHIRAKAWA KANAME
IT'S TRUE. I'M INTERESTED IN SOUICHIROU AND YOUR BROTHERS,
..BUT THAT'S NOT MY MAIN MOTIVATION
MONEY IS NECESSARY FOR THE COMPLETION OF THIS JOB
FOR THAT SOLE REASON I NEEDED TO SELL MYSELF
THIS IS MY..
..DETER-MINATION AS AN ACTOR
ALL RIGHT
SHALL WE JUST LEAVE IT AT THAT THEN?
squeeze
MIDOKU...

TURN
I HAVE TO ADMIT THOUGH TODAY WAS A BIT OF A LET DOWN
TACHI-BANA-KUN
I BELIEVE THAT YOU'LL BE ABLE TO PLEASE ME PROPERLY SOME OTHER TIME.
CLENCH
WAIT UP!
DON'T YOU HAVE ANY REGARD FOR A PERSON'S FEELINGS?!
DO YOU DECIDE EVERYTHING ON THE BASIS OF YOUR CREDIT ACCOUNT?!
PLEASE DON'T MIS-UNDERSTAND ME
FROM WHERE I STAND, I COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT THE MONEY.

IT'S ALL ABOUT WHETHER I'M INTRIGUED OR NOT
IF I M NOT THEN IT S WORTH NOTHING IN MY EYES
BUT..
..I'VE TAKEN AN INTEREST IN YOUR BROTHERS
I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO MAKE KANAME-KUN MINE
AND I HAVEN'T LOST MY INTEREST IN INVESTING IN YOU JUST YET EITHER
IF YOU OON'T LIKE IT, THEN YOU LL NEED TO PAY OUT THE AMOUNT I INVESTED
OUT OF CONSIDER-ATION FOR TACHIBANA-KUN, I LL WAIT UNTIL THIS PRODUCTION IS FINISHED
BUT THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME LEFT..

KOU-OUKI-SAN AND I
shuff
ashhh
WE COME FROM THE SAME BACK-GROUND
I DETERMINE THINGS ON WHETHER THEY HAVE SIGNI-FICANT VALUE TO ME
BUT LATELY,
I'VE LEARNED SOMETHING
AND THAT'S TO ..
..GIVE UP ON THE THINGS THAT AREN'T REACHABLE
I VE FINALLY REALIZED THAT
...
MIPOKU..

I..
IT SEEMS LIKE I'M JEALOUS OF THE RELATIONSHIP YOU HAVE WITH YOUR BROTHERS..
...
bang
DAMN IT!

WHA-
WHAT'S GOING ON?
BEFORE I TALK TO KANAME-KUN,
I THOUGHT I'D BETTER SPEAK TO YOU FIRST.
KOUDUKI-SAN IS SAYING THAT HE WANTS KANAME-KUN.

WAI- HOLD ON A SECOND!
YOU DON'T MEAN HE'S SERIOUSLY GONNA BUY KANAME-SAN WITH MONEY, DO YOU?!
DON'T JOKE AROUND WITH ME! I ABSOLUTELY WON'T LET THAT HAPPEN!
THE SAME GOES FOR ME I DON'T INTENO TO HAND HIM OVER ON A SILVER PLATTER
MORE IM-PORT-ANT-LY,
HE'S MADE A FOOL OUT OF ME. HOW CAN I JUST GRIN AND BEAR IT?
HE'S GOT SOME NERVE, CONSTANTLY SAYING WHATEVER HE WANTS...
I DEFINITELY WANNA MAKE HIM PAY!
SLAM!
THAT'S RIGHT, PRODUCER!
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT!
WHAT'S WITH THAT BASTARD KOUDUKI ACTING ALL HIGH AND MIGHTY?!
THAT PRICK CRITICIZED OUR WORK!
JUST BY LOOKING AT HIS FACE I CAN TELL HE'S JUST SOME RICH GUY HE WON'T MAKE A FOOL OUT OF ME!
YEAH, LIKE I'D LET HIM TAKE ALL OF KANAME'S DELICIOUS GOODIES!
YEAH! WE'RE NOT GONNA LET ANYWHERE YOU TALK LIKE THAT!

LET'S KICK HIS ASS, PRODUCER!
Yeah!
BY THE WAY PRODUCER
COULD YOU NOT MENTION ANY OF THIS TO KANAME-SAN?
ALL RIGHT
BUT THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT KOUDUKI-SAN WILL DO NEXT
JUST BE CAREFUL, OKAY?
AH,
OPEN
THERE YOU ARE, SOUSHIROU-KUN
OKAY
I hope he isn't lost
DID YOU KNOW KANAME-KUN WAS LOOKING FOR YOU JUST NOW?
HE SAID HE'S GOING TO GET SOME LUNCH SINCE HE FINISHED EARLY
EXCUSE ME! I'LL GO AND FIND HIM RIGHT NOW!
DASH

As if!
I'll never forgive him for this!
He wants me to hand Kaname-san over to him as security for his investment in the movie?!
THERE HE IS!
Wa...

THUD
KANAME-SAN!
I'M SO GLAD I FOUND YOU!
SORRY FOR BEING LATE
?
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN? YOUR FACE..
SOUICHIROU..

WILL YOU..
..SLEEP WITH ME?
..What?

D-DID SOME-THING..
SUD-DENLY HAPPEN KANAME-SAN?
SLEEP WITH YOU..
NO IT S JUST THAT I VE DECIDED THAT..
..I M READY
YOU SAID SEX IS SOMETHING PAINFUL FOR ME AND THAT UNTIL THAT FEELING GOES AWAY, YOU WON T SLEEP WITH ME
SOUI-CHIROU YOU SAID IT RIGHT?

I WANT YOU TO SLEEP WITH ME
AND...
I'M NOT SCARED ANY-MORE
"I'll do whatever it takes to make Kaname-kun mine..."
"This is my determination as an actor"
...I WANT TO CHANGE MYSELF
I'm sick and tired of being protected all the time.

GRAB
at the very least, before.
...
!
BAG

I DO REMEMBER SAYING THAT
I SAID I WOULDN'T SLEEP WITH YOU UNTIL YOU OVERCAME YOUR FEAR OF SEX
WELL THAT'S BECAUSE I'M THAT KIND OF GUY OF COURSE I WANT TO DO IT WITH YOU KANAME-SAN,
BUT
ha
YOU KNOW KANAME-SAN,
UHN—
IS FOR YOU TO ASK ME TO DO IT WITH SUCH A PAINED EXPRESSION ON YOUR FACE—
WHAT I DON'T WANT—
WHAT'S WRONG?
WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON?
TO FACE EVERYTHING ON YOUR OWN— IT'S A BAD HABIT OF YOURS KANAME-SAN

squeeze
...
Hikari to Kage no Journetsu
...
YOU'RE KIDDING ME
HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THAT BUSINESS WITH KOUDUKI-SAN?
"I'll do whatever it takes to make Kaname kun mine
and I haven't lost my interest in investing in you just yet either"
"If you don't like it, then you'll need to pay out the amount I invested."
Out of consideration for Tachibana-kun, I'll wait.. but.."
THERE ISN'T ANY TIME..

FOR YOU MASATO AND ME
THIS MOVIE MEANS SO MUCH
THAT'S WHY IT HAS TO BE COMPLETED
KANAME-SAN...
AND THAT'S WHY...
I'LL GO TO HIM
SO YOU CAN EITHER CHOSE TO SLEEP WITH ME NOW OR NOT
KANAME-SAN?!
WAIT UP!
DON'T DO THIS!
GRAB

JUST LET ME GO!
NO WAY!
DO YOU REALLY THINK I CAN DO THAT?!
IT'S MY LIFE!
IT'S BE-CAUSE OF ME...
I DON'T WANT ANYONE TO SUFFER ANYMORE BECAUSE OF ME!
THIS HAS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU!
!
GRIND

5:
AM
NOTHING?
YOUR LIFE
HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME?
FINE

squeeze
SOUI-CHIROU?
I'VE MADE UP MY MIND TOO
I WILL SLEEP WITH YOU,
KANAME-SAN

CLOSE
breathe
FLUMP
"Kaname-san..."

"Kaname-san
"I love you."
"Face this way Kaname-san."
"Look at me."
"I'm so in love with you."
Once Souichirou and I have finished, I'll head over to that man.
I've made my decision.

I've done this so many times now.
but still...
Why?
Souichirou's with me, yet I-
I'm so scared, Souichirou.
Scared...

YOU FINALLY CRIED.
IT HURTS DOESN'T IT?
IT'S GOTTA HURT
I'M SORRY...
I HAD NO CHOICE YOU DIDN'T SEEM LIKE YOU WERE GONNA GIVE UP.
BUT I..
IF I HAD TO GIVE YOU UP TO SOMEONE ELSE

Ah,
so that's it.
NO
...IS YOU LETTING GO OF ME
THE THING THAT SCARES ME THE MOST...
I REALIZE NOW
THAT I'M NOT AFRAID OF SEX
I WAS MORE AFRAID THAT YOU MIGHT NOT LOVE SOMEONE AS WEAK AS ME.

I
I SAID SOMETHING REALLY HORRIBLE TO YOU
THAT'S WHY I TRIED TO MANAGE IT ON MY OWN
BUT...
I'M SORRY
ME TOO
I LOVE YOU
I LOVE YOU, KANAME-SAN
GEEZ
DON'T GO OUT AND DO IT ALONE, GOT IT?
DON'T SHOULDER ALL OF YOUR PROBLEMS ON YOUR OWN, OKAY?
UHN
UHN

CLOSE
"If you don't like it then you'll need to pay out the amount I invested."

PAY OUT, HUH?
HE KNOWS THAT AMOUNT OF MONEY CAN'T BE PAID SO EASILY.

"Money is necessary for the completion of this job"
"For that sole reason I needed to sell myself"
"This is my determination as an actor"
"L"
"It seems like I'm jealous of the relationship you have with your brothers
DAMN IT!
EVEN THOUGH HE ONLY DID THAT
FOR SOMEONE WHO'S SO INVOLVED, WHY ISN'T THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO?
AH!
click
step
step

WELL IT'S
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
WHAT'S WITH THE FAMILY MEETING?
WELCOME BACK MASATO-SAN.
squeeze
WE NEED TO TALK.
MASATO-SAN,

SO YOU OVER-HEARD.
sigh
...THE CONVER-SATION WITH KOUDUKI? HONESTLY
SO IF WE DON'T WANNA HAND OVER KANAME-SAN,
I WONDER
HOW MUCH MONEY DO WE ACTUALLY NEED?
I WOULD SAY IT'S ROUGHLY IN THE TEN MILLION OVEN RANGE.
WHA?!
FLUMP
YEAH,
THAT'S THE PRICE FOR OSI'S CRAZINESS WITH THE MOVIE AND THE EXTRA SCENES.
THEN...
...THERE'S ALSO MY PRICE TO CONSIDER ON TOP OF THAT

YEAH.
UNDER "SHIRAGAWA KAORU'S CURSE."
YOU'RE UNDER A CURSE?
WE SEEM TO BE MIRED UNDER THE CURSE OF "HIKARI TO KAGE NO JOUNETSU."
IN THE END OGI AND I...
I STILL CAN'T GET OVER HIS ART.
I'M OBSESSED WITH IT.
IT'S BECAUSE HE LEFT A FEW THINGS BEHIND, YOU KNOW
DAD'S?

TO-MORROW,
I'M GONNA TRY AND NEGOTIATE WITH OGI AND KOUDUKI AGAIN
BUT THE INVOLVEMENT OF KANAME'S LIFE IS ANOTHER MATTER.
THAT'S WHY I SELFISHLY THOUGHT THAT IF KOUDUKI PUT SUCH A HIGH PRICE ON MY ART AND MY ABILITY TO REPLICATE DAD'S WORK I COULD HOLD ONTO THAT OBSESSION AND HAVE A LEGITIMATE EXCUSE TO DO SO.
MASATO.
I...
I DON'T WANT YOU TO THINK THAT SEPARATING YOUR LIFE AND MINE IS THE BEST SOLUTION.

KA-NAME
JUST NOW,
I SAID THE SOMETHING SIMILAR TO SOUICHIROU, BUT I ONLY OFFENDED HIM
BUT THAT'S ONLY BE-CAUSE
WE'RE A FAMILY.
IF YOU CAN'T SOLVE IT ON YOUR OWN, LET'S THINK ABOUT IT TOGETHER.
I'M SURE
IF DAD WERE HERE, HE'D SAY THE SAME

IF IT WAS HIM.
IF IT WAS DAD, THEN
HE'D DEFINITELY SAY THAT.
NO QUESTION
YEAH.
I GUESS SO.
flump
NOW THEN,

HOW ON EARTH ARE WE GONNA FIND TEN MILLION
TO THE MATTER AT HAND WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO ABOUT THE MONEY?
SORRY
Well it still can't be helped today
NO ONE'S EXPECTING YOU TO PAY SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
SHUT-UP
WELL I DO HAVE A SUGGEST-ION—
SHOULDN'T WE CONSULT A SPECIALIST AT TIMES LIKE THIS?
SPECIAL-IST?

OUR APOLOGIES FOR CALLING YOU OUT TONIGHT, KATSURAGI-SAN.
BUT WE COULDN'T THINK OF ANYONE ELSE WE COULD CONSULT
SO YOU GUYS NEED TO COME UP WITH A LARGE SUM OF MONEY, FAST
I SEE

SO IT'S LIKE THAT

I DON'T MIND. I'M STILL YOUR LEGAL ADVISOR FOR THE TIME BEING
EVEN SO, THIS IS QUITE SUDDEN
I THINK IT'S GOING TO BE DIFFICULT TO BORROW SUCH A LARGE SUM OF MONEY AT AN INDIVIDUAL LEVEL UNLESS YOU HAVE CONSIDERABLE COLLATERAL

COME TO THINK OF IT,

THIS HAS TO BE THE FIRST TIME YOU THREE HAVE COME TO MY PLACE TOGETHER, RIGHT?
YES.
YOU'D EACH ALWAYS MEET ME SEPARATELY TO DEAL WITH YOUR OWN INDIVIDUAL CONCERNS.
I THOUGHT THAT THE NEXT TIME I'D BE MEETING YOU THREE IT WOULD BE REGARDING THE INHERITANCE OF THE HOUSE
IS THAT RIGHT?
OH..
NOW THAT YOU'VE REMINDED ME
WE WERE IN THE MIDDLE OF DISCUSSIONS OVER THE INHERITANCE RIGHTS OF THE HOUSE, WEREN'T WE?
I'D COMPLETELY PUT THAT ASIDE UNTIL NOW

SO IN THE END
IT LOOKS LIKE IT TURNED OUT AS YOU SAID KAORU
KATSURAGI-SAN?
OH, SORRY
I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING FROM THE PAST
WELL ON TO THE MATTER OF MONEY
THERE IS ONE WAY YOU COULD GO ABOUT THIS
REALLY?!

YOU COULD
GET A LOAN BY MORTGAGING THE HOUSE
!
THIS IS LITERALLY YOUR ONLY OPTION
IF WE CAN GET FAVORABLE TERMS, THE LOAN SECURED BY THE MORTGAGE COULD BE FOR A PRETTY DECENT SUM OF MONEY.
BUT...

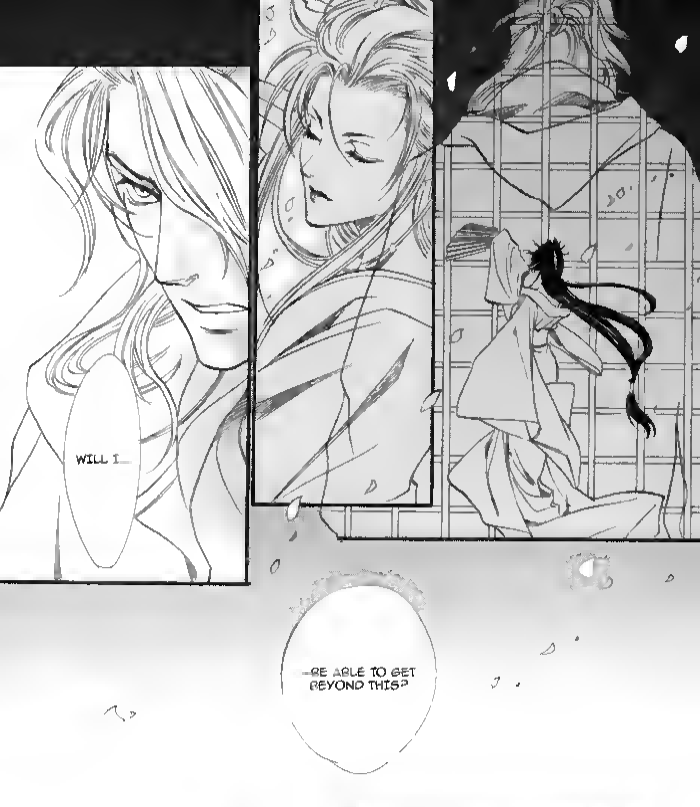
IN ORDER FOR THAT TO HAPPEN
WE WOULD FIRST NEED TO DECIDE ON WHO IS GOING TO TAKE TITLE TO THE HOUSE
SO
WHO'S GOING TO TAKE OWNERSHIP?

area 20×end

BROTHER BROTHER

KISARAGI HIROTAKA

TODAY'S THE DAY
chatter
chatter
EVERYONE'S CRANKING IT UP FOR "HIKARI TO KAGE NO JOUNETSU" TODAY
IT'S BEEN A MONTH THE TIME FOR FILMING THE REMAKE WAS SHORT, BUT IT FELT QUITE LONG
THIS IS DEFINITELY GONNA BE A GREAT FILM
EVEN SO, THAT ART DIRECTOR SHIRAKAWA IS SOMETHING ELSE RIGHT?
HE DESIGNED THAT ADDITIONAL SET ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE
WELL, THE STAFF MEMBERS FROM THE OTHER DEPARTMENTS HAD A BIG HAND IN IT TOO


WILL I
—BE ABLE TO GET BEYOND THIS?

ta-tap
tap

tap

clap
clap
GOOD
YOU'VE GOT PRETTY GOOD LINES AFTER ALL
YOU'LL BE FINE DOING IT JUST LIKE THAT
MUST BE BECAUSE OF NIOKA SAKU-RAKO'S LINAGE
I SUPP-OSE
WELL, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT HAVING GOOD LINES,
BUT THIS IS ALL HER LEGACY TO ME
YEAH

YOU'VE GROWN SO MUCH STRONGER
IS IT BECAUSE OF SOUICHIROU?
IT'S ALL THANKS...
TO MY FAMILY
OPEN
KANAME-SAN!
HOW ARE YOU DOING?
SOUI-CHIROU
I'VE TAUGHT HIM THE BASICS OF THE SUN-DANCE
BUT SERIOUSLY TO THINK YOU'D ACTUALLY COME AND ASK ME OF ALL PEOPLE-
HUH?
SQUEEZE

TACHI-BANA,
YOU SAVED US
THANK YOU SO MUCH
OI!
knock knock
AH NO WAY!
WE'RE GOING NOW, MASA-
THANKS TO AGAIN, TACHI-BANA
HEY
YOU GUYS ARE UP SOON
HURRY UP AND CHANGE!

CAN I ASK SOMETHING?
IS THIS WHAT IT'S LIKE..
—TO HAVE BROTHERS?
WHO KNOWS?
BUT THIS IS HOW THE SHIRAKAWA BROTHERS ARE
SO MAYBE
AHH...

YET AGAIN
I FIND MYSELF JEALOUS OF THEM
IT'S STUNNING AS EXPECTED
TO THINK ALL OF THIS IS GOING TO GO UP IN FLAMES. SUCH A WASTE
AND WITH KANAME-KUN DANCING IN THE MIDDLE IT WILL BE ABSOLUTELY EXQUISITE
DON'T YOU THINK SO, PRODUCER?
AND ABOUT THAT CONVERSATION WE HAD
ONCE THIS PRODUCTION IS FINISHED, I TRUST THAT YOU'LL SEE IT THROUGH?
YEAH.
I GAVE YOU MY WORD, DIDN'T I?
THUD

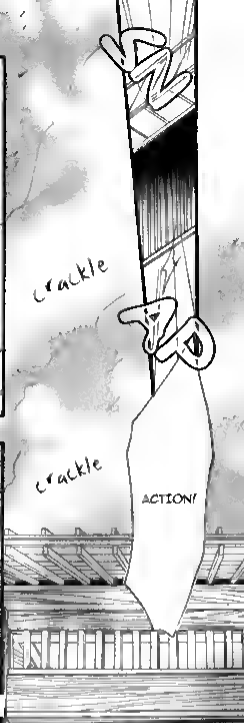
THUD
rustle
jingle
PLEASE TAKE THIS
THANK YOU FOR LOOKING AFTER OUR BROTHER
KOUOUKI-SAN
YOU'VE FINALLY REACHED COME TO A DECISION THEN?
SO
WHAT KIND OF HOTEL SUITE IS KANAME-KUN WAITING FOR ME IN I WONDER?
THUD
THERE S A MAP INSIDE FOR YOUR CONVEN-IENCE, SO PLEASE USE IT
AND WITH THAT,
YOU HAVE OUR ANSWER

HEH.
STEP
KOUDUKI-SAN?
DON'T YOU WANT TO WATCH?
I HAVE NO INTEREST IN THE FILM ITSELF
WITH SUCH A SMALL-SCALE REMAKE THERE WILL BE NO ROOM FOR TRANS-FORMATION
SAME GOES FOR THE WORK AND PEOPLE
YOU CAN T SURPASS SOMEONE OR SOMETHING S INTRINSIC VALUE, NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO
chatter
chatter

IT'S JUST A SEA OF FIRE FROM BE-YOND!
HEY YOU! SAVE YOURSELF AND GET OUT OF HERE!
crackle
crackle
IT'S IN IR RAID!
RUN!
LET'S GO! COME ON!

I'VE
DECIDED NOT TO RUN AWAY ANYMORE

thud
BAM
NO MATTER HOW DETESTABLE RELATIVES CAN BE
THEY'RE STILL FAMILY.
BURN
BURN
YOU... YOU TAUGHT ME SOME-THING


crackle
crackle
ACTION!

YOSA!
!

Shake
SIS..

OPEN
CLICK
Open
IS THIS...?

Title Deeds & Registration Documents

THEY WOULDN'T REALLY...

SQUEAK

BUMP

IIEE

SQUEAK

SOON
glance
DIRECTOR OGI?!
OKAY CU-
GRAB
KEEP ROLLING!
DON'T STOP!

area.21

GASP
WATCH OUT!
TUMBLE
CRACK
CRASH
CRUSH

YEAH,
THAT'S IT

OH, I SEE
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS
Registration
Holder(s) Shirakawa Hiroto
Shirakawa Kaname
Syouko Sawamura
Check
SO THIS WAS WHAT WAS
TYING ME DOWN

GUESS IT'S...
ALL OVER
SNAP
WHOOSH
gasp
cu-
MASATO-SAN
cough
ARE YOU OKAY?
ARE YOU TWO ALL RIGHT?
FIRE CREW, OVER HERE!
CUT!
ARE YOU HURT?
PUT OUT THE FIRE!

YEAH!
YOU GUYS... WORKED REALLY HARD
OI, THAT PERFORMANCE... IT WASN'T PART OF THE SCRIPT, RIGHT?
ARE YOU HAPPY WITH IT LIKE THAT?
YEAH.

LIKE THAT
I'M CONTENT WITH IT
I'D..
CONVINCED MYSELF THAT I COULD MAKE THIS OLD FILM COMPLETE
I WANTED TO REMAKE THAT MOVIE AND REMAKE IT AS MINE ALONE
EVEN THOUGH SUCH A TASK WAS DIFFICULT TO COMPREHEND
BUT
I HAD WANTED TO BE THE ONE TO REMAKE IT
BUT IT WASN'T LIKE THAT AT ALL
THAT IF I WERE THE ONE TO DO IT, I'D SHOOT THAT SCENE TO COMPLETE PERFECTION
THAT WAS MY ONE AND ONLY OBJECTIVE

MASATO-SAN
HURRY! WE'RE GONNA BE LATE!
HO-NESTLY,
I WAS REALLY JUST WAITING FOR SOMEONE TO BREAK IT FOR ME
YEAH
I'M COMING
JAL

THUD THUD
AH
LOOKS LIKE WE JUST BARELY MADE THE FLIGHT
sigh
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE REST
ANYHOW IF KOUDUKI DECIDES TO FOLLOW UP ON US, HE'LL PROBABLY CAUSE TROUBLE LAYING LOW IN HOKKAIDO IS JUST A SAFETY MEASURE
I STILL HAVE WORK
SO I'LL CRASH AT A HOTEL FOR NOW
OKAY WE'RE GOING BACK TO MY MOM'S FOR THE TIME BEING
BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU, MASATO-SAN?
ALL THE STAFF MEMBERS WERE EXCEPTIONALLY CO-OPERATIVE
WHEN WE GET BACK WE HAVE TO SHOW THEM OUR APPRECIATION
WE GOTTA VISIT DAD'S GRAVE TOO
IN THE END, WE COULDN'T PROTECT HIS ESTATE

IN ORDER TO RETURN THE MONEY WE BORROWED, WE NEED TO TEMPORARILY LEND TO OTHERS.
THAT'S NOT TRUE
BUT STILL
IT'S ALL BECAUSE IT'S OUR HOUSE
WE MADE OUR DECISION ABOUT THE HOUSE OF OUR OWN WILL.
AND AS FOR DAD,
I'M SURE HE'LL FORGIVE US FOR IT
WELL WELL
STEP

?!
STEP
WHO'S FORGIVING WHOM?
TO THINK YOU ACTUALLY CAME UP WITH THE MONEY
STEP
WE'VE ALREADY SATISFIED YOUR CONDITIONS
SO SHOULDN'T YOU JUST BACK OFF ALREADY?
YOUR RESOURCEFULNESS TOOK ME BY SURPRISE
OH PLEASE DON'T GET ME WRONG
I WASN'T REALLY FIXATED ON KANAME-KUN TO BEGIN WITH
I WAS MORE INTERESTED IN THE WAY THE THREE OF YOU WENT ABOUT LIVING YOUR LIVES

YOU D EASILY THROW AWAY ANYTHING FOR THE SAKE OF EACH OTHER
THAT KIND OF BOND IS UNBREAKABLE
rustle
THE HOUSE KEY AND...
RECEIPT FOR PAYMENT IN FULL?
I DECIDED TO TAKE OVER YOUR MORTGAGE WITH THE MONEY YOU PAID ME
YOU SHOULD ALWAYS PAY FOR THINGS THAT ARE OF VALUE
THAT S MY MAIN PRINCIPLE

WELL THEN
ALL THE BEST FOR THE FUTURE
SO IN THE END
WE PUT STRAIN ON OUR ALREADY OUR AWKWARD RELATIONSHIP FOR NOTHING, RIGHT?
And so in that way,

I experienced great anger but also so much happiness
together with the many people I've met

In the end
there's only one thing left that I really want to say
Mom
I GUESS

I'LL BE CANCELLING THE MOVERS THEN
EVEN IF YOU GUYS STILL WANT TO TRAVEL, MAKE SURE YOU COME BACK
WHEN YOU DO I'LL BE ABLE TO REPORT TO DAD
THAT WE'LL BE LIVING IN THAT HOUSE
TOGETHER AS BROTHERS!
I'd like to proudly introduce you to my brothers!

Hi everyone! To the new readers, it's nice to meet you! "Brother x Brother" has already reached its fourth volume! I'm deeply moved that it's finally here. This time around, there are more characters in the story; I gave it my all in creating Kouduki and the others (laughs). With the brothers having gotten over their problem with the house, I think their story will progress well from now on. Anyway, now that this volume has been completed, I hope that you will continue to read on in the future! Well then, I give my thanks to all of you for graciously reading until now, and to everyone who has kindly supported me, you have my gratitude!

Kisaragi Hirotaka

《初出》
●area-17●「CIEL」2008年5月号掲載
●area-18●「CIEL」2008年7月号掲載
●area-19●「CIEL」2008年9月号掲載
●area-20●「CIEL」2008年11月号掲載
●area-21●「CIEL」2009年1月号掲載
●あとがき●描きおろし

あすかコミックスCL-DX
兄弟限定！BROTHER×BROTHER 第4巻

初版発行　2009年7月1日

著者　如月弘鷹

発行者　井上伸一郎

発行　株式会社角川書店
〒102-8078　東京都千代田区富士見2-13-3
電話＝編集03-3238-8585

発売　株式会社角川グループパブリッシング
〒102-8177　東京都千代田区富士見2-13-3
電話＝営業03-3238-8521

装丁　来沢良一

印刷　大日本印刷株式会社

製本　BBC

2009 KADOKAWA SHOTEN Printed in Japan
ISBN978-4-04-854335-4 C0979

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